Dear Mark,   12/1/81

My failure to respond to your letter about filing against the CIA is only partly from laziness. It has been in the back of my mind and I've been hoping to see what I didn't see after I first read what you sent. Briefly, I'm for it and willing to be part of it, but I think it requires a different request and a somewhat different approach.

I think it should have two parts. One going back to day one, where the record against the CIA is pretty awful, and along with those requests have new ones along the line you indicates.

I have many requests and I'm sure you do. That they were ignored might be helpful in court, particularly if we can get some Congressional attention.

Jim had never done anything about any of my XIA requests, including for a fee waiver, so I'm not in good shape there. But I think I qualify more than anyone can.

Assume that we get records. Who pays for them, who makes copies of what for whom and how? How can we assure payment, absent which they can stonewall us to death?

Meanwhile, they claim I owe them much money. Under an ex poste facto regulation they drew up they can ignore my requests on that basis.

In form I think the new requests should be amendments to the request we have on file and are ignored.

When you get to such requests as your 7), particularly b) and c), it gets a little tricky because there must be so many agency records that are not pertinent to your interest. And are they not immune on their employees, under their previous interpretations that some courts have upheld?

I think it would be wise to avoid as much as possible of what we know they'll misuse and stonewall ocer.

The amount of money involyed in this can be great. So, while perfecting the requests, see if you can help Jim do something about my fee waiver, etc. He's been finding it possible to ignore this for very costly years. I think it is the best way to begin.

Please try to nudge Kevin on the jalousie handle. If I have it I can canvass locals who may have some old stuff on hand or be able yo get it fixed.

Best to you all,